4/4/69

Dear Dick,

Your mailing of 3/31, dated 28-30, is exciting. I buy your theory and have already initiated tests to affirm it, which is not bad, since your mailing just came today! I phoned the gun shop and they are unloading six rounds, leaving the primer in. I'll hand-load each, photograph before and after, and will get what pictures you specify from the Archives. We will then have a pretty good comparison. My vet-neighbor is a good photographer. As I told you, we may be able to use the police range and experts. But we'll be able to see how the identical ammo behaves in a similar weapon of the same manufacture if only the primer explodes. You have proved all over again what you may have heard me say, "The Purloined Letter" is the key. It is so often what is not said, or what is left unsaid, that can be the essence. We now know Frazier from his New Orleans testimony. he does only what he is told and is untroubled by the knowledge more is required of him.

If there is any special size youxwant in whatever pictures you recommend from the evidence, please indicate it. The cost of printing their pictures is $1.50 per 8x10, b & w.

Of course, I'll also fire six as they come, number each in advance, and compare photographically.

I am certain I'll want to include this in the part of AGENT OSWALD dealing with how he was framed. It is a perfect companion for what I already have on the rifle and what relates (extensive) May I?

Haven't taken time to read shortened memo on sight but will when I finish this.

Sprague confabulates. He twists to make things seem to fit when they do not. Those Goddamned pictures almost ruined us a couple of times. I stopped what would have been the end. Me and the others improvising and conjecturing over them have never done the basic checking. Through several sources I have established to my own satisfaction the train had been in motion and the arrests were not at the TSBD but in the 200-block S, Houston, at the Post Office. That ends all their nonsense. I asked Sprague for his sources and not one stacks up, most not even suggesting what he says they say. I had gone over what you spelled out to him after the Johnny Carson near-disaster. It was wasted time. There are none so blind as those who will not see. I strongly encourage you to feed him and his nothing at all for they are capable of the most awful misuse, with the best of intentions. The others also seek glory, no matter how cheaply.

Well, I've got the right rifle, the right ammo, a good camera and await your suggestions re: what should be done, what pix taken, which ordered.

Sincerely,